

Patents

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

**Gerald H. Abian**

Serial No.: **09/644,411**

Filed: **August 23, 2000**

For: **Auction Management System**

) Art Unit: **3621**

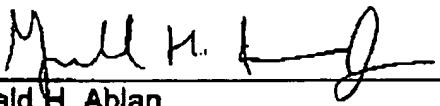
) Examiner: **C. Hewitt II**

**DECLARATION OF GERALD H. ABLAN UNDER CFR 1.56**

I, Gerald H. Abian declare and state as follows:

1. I am the sole inventor for the above identified patent application.
2. I worked on an Internet site named eBaySpy.com (later changed to auctionSpy.com), which went live on 6/11/1999.
3. The functionality implemented by the eBaySpy.com site was known as "auction counters." These were graphic images that could be appended to an Internet page typically a page showing the status of an auction listing showing the number of "page views" or "visitors" that the particular listing had received. Auction counters are useful for auction sellers because they provide a gauge of the traffic to their items based on the "hit count".
4. On 7/1/1999, an additional "image hosting" service went live on the eBaySpy.com site. This "image hosting" service provided computer memory space to auction sellers to support their auction listing images. The "auction counters" functionality was then offered in connection with the "image hosting" service.

The undersigned, being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like so made, are punishable by fine and/or imprisonment under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any resulting patent, declares that the facts set forth in this Declaration are true; all statements made of his own knowledge are true; and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

  
Gerald H. Abian

Date

12/15/2003

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